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HEALTH
1952
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SELBY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

1952



SELBY:
E. M. RIMMINGTON & CO., FINKLE STREET
1953

SELBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Councillor W. Webster, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor C. E. Anson, J.P., C.C.

Medical Officer of Health:

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

J. R. BLACKLEDGE,

Cert. S.I. Board,

Cert. Meat and Food Inspection R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

J. B. SAWDON (Appointed 14.1.52)

Cert. S.I. Board

Clerks: DOROTHY CROFT (Resigned 31.1.52)

HILARY THOMPSON (Appointed 7.1.52)

To the

Chairman and Members of the Selby Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my sixth Annual Report on the health of the Selby Rural District, and the work of the Public Health Department during 1952.

97 live births were notified, giving a Birth Rate of 14.6 (Adjusted Birth Rate 15.2), the lowest figure for ten years. It is equal, however, to the average for the ten years preceeding World War II. The national Rate was 15.3.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 10.3 (one death from congenital defect) is highly satisfactory. The Rate for England and Wales was 27.6.

The Crude Death Rate was 10.3, and the Adjusted Death Rate 9.4. This compares favourably with the rather high Rate for the last two years and the national Rate of 11.3. It is interesting to note that of the 68 deaths, 43 (63%) occurred at the age of 75 years or over; 14 (20%) at 85 years or over, and 5 at 90 years or more.

The excess of births over deaths was 29.

Notifiable infectious diseases totalled 96, of which 66 were measles and 26 whooping cough. Three cases of acute poliomyelitis occurred.

There has been no diphtheria in the District for six years, but this fact must not be taken as a reason for relaxing the need for all children to be protected by immunisation.

In conclusion, I express my thanks to the Members and Officials of the Council for their support and co-operation during 1952.

I remain, Your obedient servant,

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON,

July, 1953,

Medical Officer of Health,

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1952.

Area of Rural District	....	....	33,304 acres
Population (mid 1952)	....	....	6,623
Number of Inhabited Houses	....	....	1,824
Rateable Value	....	....	£28,171
Product of Penny Rate (March 1953)	....	....	£116/10/9

VITAL STATISTICS.

	SELBY R.D.	Aggre- gate West Riding R.D.s	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provi- sional)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 population)	14.6	15.8	15.4	15.3
CRUDE DEATH RATES (per 1,000 population)				
All causes	10.3	9.8	11.5	11.3
Infective & Parasitic Diseases	0.15	0.05	0.07	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	0.15	0.16	0.21
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	0	0.03	0.03	0.03
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	1.06	1.01	1.15	—
Cancer	1.81	1.66	1.92	1.99
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	3.02	3.53	4.35	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1.81	1.37	1.74	—
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	10.3	29.8	30.0	27.6
STILLBIRTHS	20.2	23.3	24.6	22.6
INFANT DIARRHOEA (Deaths under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	0	—	—	1.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in child- birth per 1,000 total births)	0	0.57	0.80	0.72

Comparability Factors:

For Births, 1.04.	Adjusted Birth Rate, 15.2
For Deaths, 0.92.	Adjusted Death Rate, 9.4

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR TEN YEARS.

BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 population)

1952	....	14.6							
1951	....	15.2	1948	....	17.2	1945	....	17.7	
1950	....	15.3	1947	....	19.3	1944	....	17.3	
1949	....	18.9	1946	....	20.8	1943	....	18.9	

STILLBIRTHS (per 1,000 total births)

1952	....	20.2							
1951	....	38.8	1948	....	28.0	1945	....	19.8	
1950	....	20.6	1947	....	26.1	1944	....	45.9	
1949	....	41.7	1946	....	32.3	1943	....	8.5	

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS (per 1,000 total births)

1952	....	40.4							
1951	....	58.3	1948	....	64.4	1945	....	158.4	
1950	....	82.5	1947	....	104.4	1944	....	64.2	
1949	....	75.0	1946	....	—	1943	....	85.6	

TOTAL DEATH RATE (per 1,000 population)

1952	....	10.3							
1951	....	13.4	1948	....	11.2	1945	....	12.7	
1950	....	14.1	1947	....	11.5	1944	....	14.1	
1949	....	10.0	1946	....	11.8	1943	....	13.9	

INFECTIVE AND PARASITIC DISEASES.

1952	....	0.15							
1951	....	0	1948	....	0	1945	....	0	
1950	....	0	1947	....	0.17	1944	....	0	
1949	....	0	1946	....	0	1943	....	0	

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

1952	....	0							
1951	....	0.15	1948	....	0.33	1945	....	0.36	
1950	....	0.16	1947	....	1.03	1944	....	0.16	
1949	....	0.16	1946	....	0.35	1943	....	0.49	

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

1952	....	0					
1951	....	0.15	1948	....	0.17	1945	.... 0.36
1950	....	0	1947	....	0.34	1944	.... 0
1949	....	0.16	1946	....	0	1943	.... 0.16

RESPIRATORY DISEASES

1952	....	1.06					
1951	....	2.00	1948	....	0.83	1945	.... 1.79
1950	....	1.13	1947	....	1.20	1944	.... 0.83
1949	....	1.64	1946	....	1.04	1943	.... 1.96

CANCER

1952	....	1.81					
1951	....	1.39	1948	....	1.65	1945	.... 2.15
1950	....	2.09	1947	....	1.75	1944	.... 2.49
1949	....	1.64	1946	....	1.64	1943	.... 2.45

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASES

1952	....	3.02					
1951	....	5.39	1948	....	3.64	1945	.... 3.40
1950	....	5.95	1947	....	2.06	1944	.... 3.99
1949	....	2.95	1946	....	2.61	1943	.... 2.60

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(per 1,000 live births)

1952	....	10.3					
1951	....	10	1948	....	29	1945	.... 30
1950	....	74	1947	....	27	1944	.... 38
1949	....	9	1946	....	33	1943	.... 17

MATERNAL MORTALITY

(per 1,000 total births)

1952	....	0					
1951	....	0	1948	....	0	1945	.... 0
1950	....	10.3	1947	....	0	1944	.... 0
1949	....	0	1946	....	0	1943	.... 0

BIRTHS, 1952.

			Male	Female	Total
Live Births.—	Legitimate	....	54	39	93
	Illegitimate	....	2	2	4
			—	—	—
	Total	....	56	41	97
Stillbirths	....	....	2	0	2

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1952.

			Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	....	....	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Other forms)	....	....	0	0	0
Cancer	....	....	4	8	12
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System			4	8	12
Heart Diseases	....	....	13	7	20
Other diseases of circulatory system			0	0	0
Bronchitis	....	....	2	3	5
Influenza	....	....	0	0	0
Pneumonia	....	....	1	0	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach	....	....	1	0	1
Nephritis	....	....	1	0	1
Congenital	....	....	0	1	1
Motor Accidents	....	....	1	0	1
Other Accidents	....	....	0	1	1
All other causes	....	....	5	7	12
			—	—	—
Total	....		33	35	68

TUBERCULOSIS.**New cases in 1952.**

			Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	....	....	0	0	0
Non-Pulmonary	....	....	0	0	0
			—	—	—
Total	....		0	0	0

Total cases on Register.

Pulmonary	....	....	5	7	12
Non-Pulmonary	....	....	2	4	6
			—	—	—
Total	....		7	11	18

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

One death from Congenital Defect—under 1 week old.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
notified during the year 1952.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED								CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
	At all Ages.	According to Age								
		Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	Over 65		
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic	3	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3	...
“ “ non-paralytic ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	66	1	16	49	...	...	...	...	...	...
Primary Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenzal Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	26	1	8	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	96	2	24	67	1	1	1	...	3	...

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.
Section 47.

No action was required under this section of the Act during 1952.

WEST RIDING COUNTY DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SELBY RURAL DISTRICT, 1952.

The Public Health Nursing Staff in this Division no longer works according to County District boundaries. Most of the figures in the following summaries refer to Selby R.D., but in a few cases the figures are those for the Rural and Urban Districts combined, or for Division No. 10 as a whole.

1. BIRTHS.

Live Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	97
Stillbirths	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Males	....	....	....	....	....	....	58
Females	....	....	....	....	....	....	41

2. PREMATURE BABIES. Babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth.

(i) Born at home	....	....	....	....	Alive	4
					Stillborn	0
(ii) Born in an institution	....	....	....	....	Alive	1
					Stillborn	0
Total						5

3. HEALTH VISITING (Selby R.D. and U.D.)

	First Visits	Other Visits	Total
Expectant Mothers	40	189	229
Children under 1	259	3433	3692
Children between 1 and 5	—	1843	1843
Other cases	54	621	675
Ineffective	—	—	706
Total	353	6086	7145

4. CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (WEST BANK).

(a) Total number of children under 5 yrs. of age who first attended the Clinic during the year, and who at the date of their first attendance were:

(i) under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	14
(ii) over 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	14

(b) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Clinic during the year and who at the end of the year were:

(i) under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	3
(ii) over 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	25

Number of Sessions held:

West Bank	....	....	....	....	....	12
Total attendance	....	....	....	....	....	149
Average per session	....	....	....	....	....	12.4

5. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Total number attending Paediatric Consultant	....	....	....	....	5
Total number attending Orthopaedic Surgeon	....	....	....	....	12
Total number attending County Occulist	....	....	....	....	137
Number ordered Spectacles	....	....	....	....	38
Number attending Speech Therapy	....	....	....	....	4
Total number inspected in School by School M.O.	....	....	....	....	244
Total number inspected in School by School Nurse	....	....	....	....	1165
Total number of verminous heads	....	....	....	....	75
Tests for mental defect, primary	....	....	....	....	5
Re-examinations	....	....	....	....	7
Reported to M.D. Authority is uneducable	....	....	....	....	2
Reported to M.D.A. for supervision	....	....	....	....	2
Recommended for special schools	....	....	....	....	2
Attending special schools	....	....	....	....	0

The following defects were found at medical inspections:

					Requiring treatment	For ob- servation
Verminous heads	....	....	....	....	75	—
Skin	....	....	....	....	3	0
Vision	....	....	....	....	16	23
Other eye conditions	....	....	....	....	2	6
Hearing	....	....	....	....	0	3
Other ear defects	....	....	....	....	0	2
Nose and throat	....	....	....	....	3	7
Speech	....	....	....	....	0	2
Cervical glands	....	....	....	....	0	8
Heart and circulation	....	....	....	....	0	1
Lungs	....	....	....	....	1	3
Developmental	....	....	....	....	0	0
Orthopaedic	....	....	....	....	4	12
Nervous System	....	....	....	....	0	0
Psychological	....	....	....	....	1	3
Other conditions	....	....	....	....	1	0

6. MATERNITY SERVICES.

Ante-natal Clinics:

			First Visits	Total Visits	Mothers attending
West Bank	....		2	4	2
Goole	....	....	2	12	2
Selby	....	....	28	91	32
Snaith	....	....	11	35	11

Mothers Confined in Hospital.

Leeds Maternity Home	....	....	....	....	7
York Maternity Home	....	....	....	....	12
Hazlewood Maternity Home	....	....	....	....	21
Goole Borough Maternity Home	....	....	....	....	1
Others	....	....	....	....	4
Total					45

County Midwives.

There were 54 domiciliary confinements in Selby Rural District in 1952.

The following summary of the work of the County Midwives is for Division 10 as a whole:—

Number of Cases	....	....	441
Number of Visits	....	....	9024
Gas and air analgesia	....	....	329
Number of midwives	....	....	11

7. HOME NURSING.

Number of cases	....	....	80
Number of visits	....	....	3061

8. HOME HELPS.

There was one full-time and 4 part-time Home Helps employed during the year and they attended the following cases:

Lying in	....	....	....	16
Expectant Mothers	....	....	....	2
Illness	....	....	....	2
Aged	....	....	....	1
Children	....	....	....	2
Total				23

9. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA during 1952

Children under 5 years	....	....	....	....	46
Children over 5 years	....	....	....	....	23
					<hr/> 69
Booster doses	....	....	....	....	98
					<hr/> Total 167

Total number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised up to the 31st December, 1952:

Age—Years	0—1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	Total
Number	1	34	51	55	54	444	415	1054
Percentage	30.37%					95.54%		74.80%

10. MENTAL HEALTH.

The number of mentally defective persons under supervision at the end of 1952 was as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Under Guardianship	0	0	0
Under Statutory Supervision	4	3	7
Under Voluntary Supervision	0	0	0
On Licence from Institutions	0	1	1

11. COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The following are the details of patients from Division No. 10 carried by the W.R.C.C. ambulances during 1952:

	Selby	Goole
Maternity cases	93	257
Accident cases	225	138
Other cases	4079	8099
Journeys made	2121	2953
Total patients carried	4397	8494
Mileage travelled	73411	92229

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR for 1952.

Water Supply.

The Rural District Council is the water undertaker for the whole of their district, and with the exception of a very small number of dwellings, there is a public supply throughout the district.

Water is purchased in bulk from the Selby Urban District Council, whose boreholes are situated within the Rural District at Brayton Barff. Chlorination is carried out by the U.D.C., and routine samples collected at various parts of the district have all been reported as satisfactory, both chemically and bacteriologically. A summary of the chemical analysis is given herewith.

It is noted from recent tests that there is a small but appreciable increase in the hardness of the water, and it is known that some years ago there was a corresponding decrease in hardness. This fluctuation is of interest, but has no public health significance.

Chemical Analysis of the Water Supply, 1952.

					21st May	9th October
Colour	....	....	....	....	Colourless	Colourless
Appearance	....	....	....	....	Clear	Slight trace of suspended matter
Taste	....	....	....	....	Normal	Normal
Smell	....	....	....	....	None	None
Reaction pH	....	....	....	....	7.6	7.5
					Parts per million	
Free Carbon Dioxide as CO ₂	....				4.0	None
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	....				0.010	None
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	....				1.116	None
Nitrous Nitrogen as N	....				Trace	None
Nitric Nitrogen as N	....				10.13	10.46
Hardness (Soap test) as CaCO ₃					238	233
				Temporary	108	106
				Permanent	130	127
Permanganate figure as O	....				0.281	0.131
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	....				125	125
Total Solids (180°C)	....				329	330
Chloride as Cl	....				25.0	23.0

Approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of 4" main was laid during the year to supply the Ministry of Agriculture Horticultural Experimental Station at Cawood, in addition to small extensions on two Council housing sites.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

With the exception of five small disposal works dealing with Council housing sites, and three Service Establishment works, there are no sewage disposal plants in the district.

The existing disposal arrangements consist of septic tank treatment and discharge into open ditches, and as there is an increasing tendency for more water to be used for domestic purposes, the pollution in the dikes has become a serious problem. The erection of new houses and the installation of baths, sinks and water closets, have aggravated the trouble in some parishes to such an extent that the provision of a sewage disposal system is an urgent necessity.

The Council have submitted particulars of such proposals to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the parishes of Carlton and Barlow, and a scheme for the parish of Brayton is under consideration.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The collection of house refuse is carried out throughout the district, with the exception of a small number of isolated farms, by direct labour, with two 7 cubic yard Karrier motor collectors.

There are a large number of ashpits in the district which are obsolete and unsatisfactory, and these are being abolished and replaced with bins and earth closets as circumstances permit. As the replacement of these structures proceeds it will be possible to increase the frequency of collection of house refuse and soil.

Disposal is effected by means of tipping on five tips, which have been maintained in reasonably satisfactory condition. There is no permanent attendant on any tip, and trouble is experienced by local farmers and others indiscriminately dumping vegetable refuse during the absence of the Council's workmen.

Rodent Control.

The Council employ a Rodent Operative on a part-time basis, and complaints are dealt with as they arise.

The refuse tips are given regular attention, and a good liaison is maintained with the County Pests Department regarding agricultural holdings.

Food Inspection.

There are three dairies in the district supervised by the Council and in all cases maintenance has been satisfactory.

Food preparing and storage premises have been found to be in a satisfactory condition, and no statutory action has been necessary. Byelaws are in force relating to the Handling and Distribution of Food under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

There are no premises manufacturing ice cream in the district, and those premises licenced for the sale of pre-packed ice cream have been well maintained.

There is no public abattoir; meat for consumption in the district is obtained from Goole.

Milk samples obtained throughout the year have been satisfactory.

Inspection of Premises under Public Health & Housing Acts.

Complaints relating to unsatisfactory dwellings have been remedied by informal action, but owing to the low rent yield, owners are becoming increasingly reluctant to spend money on repairs, and in consequence property which would have a number of years useful life is rapidly deteriorating.

Little interest is being shown in the improvement of property under the Housing Act, 1949, and whilst several cases are under consideration, no grants have yet been made by the Council.

136 inspections were made during the year, under the Public Health and Housing Acts, and repairs were carried out in respect of 54 houses.

New Housing.

New houses have been erected, or are in course of erection, within the district during the year as follows:—

By Council		By Private Developers	
Completed	Course of erection	Completed	Course of erection
21	8	8	5

Factories Act, 1947.

No. of factories with mechanical power ....	....	8
No. of factories without mechanical power ....	....	Nil
No. of inspections ....	....	3
Contraventions found ....	....	Nil

